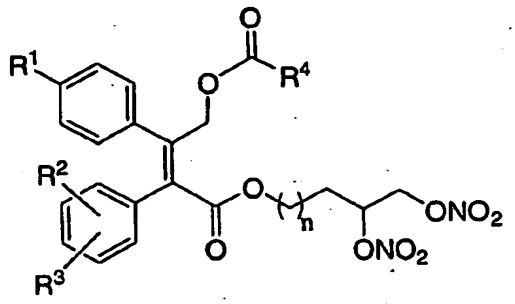
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of Formula I



I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

n is an integer from 1 to 6;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) $S(O)_2CH_3$ and

(b) $S(O)_2NH_2$,

R^2 and R^3 each are independently selected from the group consisting of:

(a) hydrogen,

(b) halo,

(c) C_{1-6}alkoxy,

(d) C_{1-6}alkylthio,

(e) CN,

(f) CF_3,

(g) C_{1-6}alkyl, and

(h) N_3;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of

(a) C_{1-4}alkyl, optionally substituted with with 1 to 3 halo groups,

(b) phenyl, naphthyl or a 5- or 6-membered aromatice heterocycle, each optionally substituted with 1 to 3 halo groups,

(c) $-O-R^5$, and

(b) $-(CH_2)_m-N(R^6)(R^7)$;

m is an integer from 1 to 4; and

R^5, R^6 and R^7 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl, optionally substituted with 1 to 3 halo groups.

2. The compound according to Claim 1 wherein

R^1 is $S(O)_2CH_3$, and

R^2 and R^3 are both hydrogen.

3. The compound according to Claim 1 wherein n is 1, 2 or 3.

4. The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R^4 is C_{1-4}alkyl.

5. The compound according to Claim 4 wherein R^4 is methyl.

6. A method of treating an inflammatory disease susceptible to treatment with a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment of a non-toxic therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

7. The method according to Claim 6 wherein the patient is also at risk of a thrombotic cardiovascular event and the patient is on aspirin therapy to reduce the risk of the cardiovascular event.

8. A method of treating cyclooxygenase mediated diseases advantageously treated by an active agent that selectively inhibits COX-2 in preference to COX-1 comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment of a non-toxic therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

9. The method according to Claim 8 wherein the patient is also at risk of a thrombotic cardiovascular event and the patient is on aspirin therapy to reduce the risk of the cardiovascular event.

10. A method for treating a chronic cyclooxygenase-2 mediated disease or condition and reducing the risk of a thrombotic cardiovascular event in a human patient in need of such treatment and at risk of a thrombotic cardiovascular event comprising orally concomitantly or sequentially administering to said patient a compound according to Claim 1 in an amount effective to treat the cyclooxygenase-2 mediated disease or condition and aspirin in an amount effective to reduce the risk of the thrombotic cardiovascular event.

11. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the compound is administered orally on a once daily basis.

12. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the compound is administered orally on a twice daily basis.

13. The method according to Claim 10 wherein the cyclooxygenase-2 selective mediated disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of: osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis and chronic pain.

14. The method according to Claim 10 wherein aspirin is administered at a dose of about 30 mg to about 1 g.

15. The method according to Claim 14 wherein aspirin is administered at a dose of about 80 to about 650 mg.

16. The method according to Claim 15 wherein aspirin is administered at a dose of about 81 mg or about 325 mg.

17. The method according to Claim 10 wherein aspirin is orally administered once daily.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and aspirin in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.